

From: will
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 1:33pm
Subject: in regards to the microsoft anti-trust case

I used to be a consultant on Microsoft products right up until about 4 years ago when I switched from consulting on systems integration and started doing development work on a variety of other platforms.

I've known a lot of the folks at Microsoft over the years and been a part of various Microsoft initiatives. As the years have passed, I've become increasingly concerned with the level of quality of Microsoft products and the direct effects they have on our world. Not just consumers, or businesses, or governments, or the Internet, but everything. The reason they have this affect on everything is because they outsell other operating system providers in a variety of business spaces. This ability they have comes less from radical product superiority, but mostly from their absolutely amazing business and marketing skills.

I think these business and marketing moves that Microsoft has made have become increasingly Machiavellian--the ends absolutely justifies the means in the Microsoft juggernaut's mind (sorry for the personification here). Reading through the findings and my experiences in the Microsoft world and my friends' lives, I believed as the courts did that Microsoft is guilty of abusing their monopoly.

Reading through the settlement recommendation, I'm appalled. I think it does nothing to curb Microsoft's business and marketing juggernaut which clearly lacks moral sense. I think it actually furthers Microsoft's monopoly in the future without instilling any moral and ethical guidelines.

I am absolutely against this settlement and I think it's ridiculous that it's even being considered by anyone. It's not an issues of good vs. evil, it's an issue of fixing the future so that consumers aren't continually hurt by the continual immoral practices of a behemoth company.

Thank you for your time,
/will

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whatever it is, you can find it at <http://www.bluesock.org/~willg/>
except Will--you can only see him in real life.